

respectively commanded to preserve the peace at and about the places of voting of their respective precincts from the time that the polls shall have been opened therein until the returns of the votes taken at any election therein shall have been made; and they, and each of them shall have full power, and it shall be their duty, to keep the polls of their respective precincts clear, or cause them to be kept clear, so that ingress thereto and egress therefrom shall be free and unobstructed to the voters; and to prevent and suppress riots, tumult, violence, disorder and all other improper practices tending to the intimidation or obstruction of voters, or the disturbance or interruption of elections.

P. L. L., (1880,) art. 4, sec. 208.

**255.** The said judges, or a majority of them in each precinct, shall have power, and are directed to select the places of voting in and for their respective precincts, and to take care that the same be as near the centre of such precincts as may be, and upon an open, public street, in a free, accessible and convenient location, and that no tavern, liquor store, grog-shop or other place at which liquor shall usually, or at the time, be sold, shall be by them taken or used as a place of voting; and they shall take all such measures, whether by the erection of barriers, or establishing limits around the polls, or otherwise, as may be necessary and proper in their judgment to prevent crowding at or near the polls, or the interruption of voters in approaching or returning from the same; and it shall be their duty, by proper precautions in advance and by such regulations and arrangements beforehand, or on the day of election, as may be suitable, to secure the peaceful conduct of such elections as may be held during their official terms, and the protection of the voters and the ballot-boxes from violence and fraud.

Ibid. sec. 209

**256.** In order to enable the judges to discharge the duties imposed on them by this sub-title of this article, or any other law, they, and each of them, shall have full power and authority upon every day of election, and until they shall have made up the return of the votes polled, to commit to the jail of Baltimore